

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 064266  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-15 SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
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USNMR SHAPE

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CINCPAVEUR

UNCLAS STATE 064266

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, SOPN, TU

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING: US-TURKISH RELATIONS

FOLLOWING IS RESPONSE OF DEPARTMENT PRESS SPOKESMAN MARCH 13

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NOON BRIEFING.

QUOTE: Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS ON THE TURKISH PRIME  
MINISTER'S VERY STRONG REACTION TO SECRETARY VANCE'S STATE-  
MENT ON THURSDAY?

A: WELL LET ME SAY SOMETHING GENERALLY SINCE THERE SEEMS TO

HAVE BEEN, UNFORTUNATELY, SOME MISUNDERSTANDING HERE.

THE POLICY OF THE ADMINISTRATION WITH RESPECT TO THE U.S.-TURKISH DCA IS NOT LINKED TO ANY ONE OR TWO EVENTS IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. THE ADMINISTRATION HAS ENDORSED THE DCA IN PRINCIPLE.

ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS, WHICH WILL BE MADE IN HEARINGS TO BE HELD OVER THE COMING WEEKS, WILL BE BASED ON OVERALL U.S. POLICY INTERESTS INCLUDING BILATERAL RELATIONS AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN, AND NOT ON SPECIFIC EVENTS OCCURRING THIS MONTH IN THE REGION.

THE SECRETARY'S COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO A CONGRESSIONAL QUESTION LAST WEEK, WERE DESIGNED SIMPLY TO CALL ATTENTION TO TWO POSITIVE EVENTS INVOLVING THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN:

FIRST, THE SUMMIT MEETING BETWEEN THE LEADERS OF GREECE AND TURKEY, WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN VERY CONSTRUCTIVE.

AND SECOND, WE WELCOME THE INITIATIVE OF THE TURKISH SIDE IN THE CYPRUS TALKS AND PROMISING TO PRESENT CONSTITUTIONAL AND TERRITORIAL PROPOSALS TO THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL.

SO I REPEAT, THERE WAS NO INTENTION, NOR IS THERE ANY LINKAGE, BETWEEN THOSE EVENTS AND OUR DECISIONS ON THE DCA.  
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Q: CAN YOU SAY DEFINITELY, EXACTLY WHAT THE SECRETARY DID SAY LAST WEEK THAT AROUSED THIS --

A: I DON'T HAVE THE EXACT PHRASING ANYMORE. I DON'T REMEMBER THE CONTEXT, AND I'M AFRAID --

Q: WHEN CAN WE GET IT?

A: WELL, IT'S CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY, WHICH WAS REPORTED AT THE TIME.

Q: HODDING, YOU SAY THERE WAS GOING TO BE HEARINGS IN THE COMING WEEKS?

A: YES.

Q: WILL THE ADMINISTRATION BE ASKING THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE TO APPROVE THE DCA? HAS THAT BRIDGE BEEN CROSSED YET?

A: LET ME SAY ON THE SPECIFIC QUESTION, WE HAVE AS YOU

KNOW, ENDORSED THE DCA IN PRINCIPLE. AND OUR POSITION ON THE SUBJECT IS GOING TO BE MADE CLEAR AT THE TIME THAT WE GO FORWARD INTO THESE HEARINGS.

I AM REALLY NOT AT THIS POINT PREPARED TO GO BEYOND THAT.

Q: WHAT IS THE "UNFORTUNATE MISUNDERSTANDING" THEN?

A: THERE WAS AN APPARENT BELIEF BY THE TURKISH PRIME MINISTER THAT THE SECRETARY WAS LINKING CERTAIN EVENTS WITH THE OFFERING OF THE DCA TO CONGRESS.

WHAT I AM ATTEMPTING TO DO IS TO UNLINK IT.

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Q: WELL WAS THIS IMPLICIT IN THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS? THE VERSION I READ, INDICATED THAT IT WAS.

Q: I SECOND THAT.

A: YES, I APPRECIATE EVERYBODY'S INTERPRETATION BUT WHAT I AM DOING ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY, IS TELLING YOU WHAT INTERPRETATION HE PLACES ON HIS REMARKS -- AND WHAT THE POLICY IS.

Q: DID HE MISSPEAK?

A: I HAVE SIMPLY SAID HERE WHAT HE BELIEVED THAT HE WAS SAYING, AND WHAT OUR POLICY IS.

Q: THERE WAS A LETTER OF RESPONSE TO CHAIRMAN ZABLOCKI'S LETTER ON THE QUESTION OF THE TURKISH DCA? DID THE SECRETARY RESPOND?

A: HAS THAT GONE BACK?

DO YOU MEAN THE OVERALL LETTER --

Q: FROM THE GROUP.

A: I DO NOT HAVE AN ANSWER TO THAT. I HAVE NOT SEEN THE LETTER GO OUT. IF THAT IS WRONG, IF I HAVE MISSED IT ON THE TRANSMITTAL SHEET, I WILL --

Q: I HAVE HEARD IT HAS ALREADY BEEN RECEIVED ON THE HILL BUT --

A: GOOD.

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Q: BUT THEY ARE JUST WAITING FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO  
RELEASE IT, AND I AM JUST WONDERING -- WOULD YOU RELEASE  
THE --

A: I THOUGHT WE NORMALLY LEAVE IT UP TO THOSE WHO RECEIVE  
OUR LETTERS TO RELEASE THEM. IT'S NOT FOR US TO RELEASE --

Q: WELL THEY ARE SAYING NOW THAT IT'S UP TO THE STATE  
DEPARTMENT TO RELEASE IT.

A: WELL IT IS OUR POLICY GENERALLY, TO LEAVE IT UP TO  
THOSE TO WHOM WE WRITE.

Q: COULD YOU GIVE US AN IDEA OF WHAT THE REPLY WAS?

A: NO.

I MEAN REALLY, THAT'S A LETTER TO THEM -- ASSUMING THAT  
IT'S UP THERE, ROY, AND THEY CAN USE IT AS THEY --

Q: WELL WHAT IS THE GENERAL ATTITUDE TO WHAT CHAIRMAN  
ZABLOCKI SAID IN HIS LETTER?

A: THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT IS IN THE LETTER, I SUPPOSE, IF  
IT'S UP THERE. AND IF IT IS NOT UP THERE YET IT WILL BE.  
AND I AM SURE THAT THE CHAIRMAN WILL MAKE HIS OWN DECISION  
AS TO WHETHER HE WANTS IT TO BE MADE PUBLIC. (DEPT SUB-  
SEQUENTLY ON MARCH 13 MADE AVAILABLE TO CORRESPONDENTS EX-  
CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH ZABLOCKI STATE 62019).  
VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, BRIEFING MATERIALS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**TAGS:** PGOV, SOPN, TU  
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